

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYERS.

“ In the morning, rising up a great while before day, He went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.”—MARK i. 35.

“ Leaving us an example, that we should follow his steps.”
—1 PETER ii. 21.

“ Continuing instant in prayer.”—ROMANS xii. 12.

MORNING AND
EVENING PRAYERS,

BY THE AUTHOR OF
FAMILY PRAYERS FROM THE BIBLE."

THE THIRD EDITION.

ANY PROFIT THAT MAY ARISE WILL BE GIVEN
TO THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

PUBLISHED BY R. B. SEELEY AND W. BURNSIDE :
AND SOLD BY L. B. SEELEY AND SONS,
FLEET STREET, LONDON.
MDCCCXXXII.

L. B. SEELEY AND SONS, WESTON GREEN, SURREY

PRAYERS.

SUNDAY MORNING.

O LORD God! Holy and True!¹ help me on the morning of this sacred day to plead with Thee for the fulfilment of Thy gracious promises to thine ancient people, and to the church in general.²

¹ Rev.
vi. 16.

² Jerem.
xxxi. 23,
34.
Habak.
ii. 14.

O that all might be enabled to take hold of Thy strength and to make peace with Thee!³ O that all might look upon Him who was pierced for our sins and mourn!⁴ O that many might this day be added to the church of such as shall be saved!⁵

³ Isaiah
xxxvii. 5.

⁴ Zech.
xii. 10.

⁵ Acts
ii. 47.

Have mercy, O Lord, upon those

nations who as yet have never heard the sound of the Gospel. Raise up faithful labourers to the harvest,¹ and may Thy blessing rest upon them, and upon our Missionary and Bible Societies, and upon every Society and effort for the spreading of the Gospel. Be with those who are gone into foreign lands in this holy cause, and those who are occupied in it at home. May they be wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.² Give success to their labours, and may those who water others, be abundantly watered by Thee.³ O may the Holy Spirit, the Guide, the Comforter, descend in full and rich blessings more and more upon the church. Heal, I beseech Thee, its divisions, cleanse it from its corruptions. Let it no longer be, that those who profess to follow Thee, should in works deny Thee,⁴ but may we be followers of Christ as dear children,⁵ adorning the doctrine of God our Saviour,⁶ and letting our light

Matt.
v. 38.

Matt.
x. 16.

Prov.
i. 25.

Tit. i.
5.

Eph.
v. 1.

Tit. ii.
4.

so shine before men, that seeing our good works, they may glorify our Father which is in heaven. Preserve those who have begun to follow Thee, from falling back unto perdition.¹ Uphold by Thy mighty ^{1 Heb. x. 39.} power the churches of our various missions, especially those which are in distress from the loss of labourers, or from any other trial. Bestow upon all Thy people a spirit of grace and supplication, and may we who wait upon Thee, renew our strength, and mount up with wings as eagles.² Teach us to desire such ^{2 Isaiah xl. 31.} things as are pleasing unto Thee; and may we so ask that we may receive, so seek that we may find, so knock that it may be opened unto us. May we grow in faith, in holiness, in meekness, in heavenly wisdom, in love to God, and charity to man, and in every Christian grace; and if it pleaseth Thee, may we receive abundantly the consolations of the Holy Spirit.

O God! look not upon the unworthiness of thy poor creature who pleads, but upon Him to whom Thou hast promised the utmost parts of the earth for His possession,¹ and for His sake, do for us more than we are able to express or conceive, even for the sake of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, our blessed Redeemer and Advocate. Amen.

SUNDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY Father in Christ Jesus! I desire to bow before Thee this evening, in Thy Son's blessed name. Receive me, I pray Thee, graciously, and for His sake, vouchsafe to me the aid of the Holy Spirit, that I may offer unto Thee an acceptable evening sacrifice through Jesus Christ.

O Lord, I would penitently confess to Thee, my unworthiness, particularly my sins of omission and commission on this Thy sacred day. I have neither loved Thee, served Thee, nor obeyed Thee, as I ought to have done. I have not, as I ought, devoted this day to the glory of Thy name, and the improvement of my soul. O Lord, I am verily guilty before Thee; and when I look back upon the past day, and upon all the days of my life, I confess that I am undeserving of Thy mercy; but when I think upon Thy loving-kindness in giving Thy beloved Son as a sacrifice for sins, I am encouraged still to hope in that mercy, and to beseech Thee not only to pardon me, but to bless me by turning me away from my iniquities.¹ O may the words of Scrip-^{1 Acts}
^{iii. 25}ture which I have heard and read this day, be deeply impressed on my mind, and bring forth in me the fruits of everlasting life. Let thy Holy Spirit dwell

within me, enlightening and sanctifying my soul, and filling me with holy thoughts, pure desires, strong resolutions, and heavenly affections.

I beseech Thee, O Lord, to bless every endeavour which has this day been made to spread the truth, and to benefit the souls of men. Grant that heavenly strength and comfort may descend into the souls of all who have sought Thee in prayer, and O may many, who hitherto have been wanderers from the path of life, ere this day close, be gathered into thy fold, Heavenly Shepherd of Israel.¹

¹ Ezek.
xxxiv.
23. John
x. 16.

O Lord ! my Preserver and Benefactor, I would bless Thee for all Thy mercies ; and I pray Thee to enable me to show forth Thy praise, not only with my lips, but in my life, by humbly and earnestly endeavouring henceforward to keep thy commandments.

I commend myself, and all belonging to me, to Thy heavenly protection and

blessing this night in body and soul.
 May we lie down and not be afraid ; may
 we lie down and may our sleep be sweet ;¹ ¹ Prov
 iii. 24.
 and, if it be Thy will, may we arise in the
 morning refreshed and strengthened for
 the duties of another day.

Merciful Father ! receive my prayers
 and praises, and send me an answer of
 peace ; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

GRACIOUS and merciful God ! accept my
 tribute of praise and thanksgiving for all
 Thy mercy and loving-kindness towards
 me ; especially that Thou hast preserved
 me in peace and safety through the past
 night, and raised me up to see the light
 of another day. Oh ! may this be my ac-
 cepted time, this my day of salvation !² ² Isaiah
 xlix. 8.
² Cor.
 vi. 2.
 Heb. iii.
 7, 13.

Now that Thou hast disposed me to bow the knee before Thee, and permitted me to take Thy sacred name within my lips, be pleased to fill my soul with heavenly desires, and to help me to plead with earnestness for myself and others, simply and firmly trusting in Christ Jesus for acceptance with Thee.

O Lord, I would pray for myself and all who call upon Thee, that the Holy Spirit may shine more and more into our hearts ; showing us our lost condition by nature, and the Saviour Thou hast provided for us ; filling us with earnest desires of knowing and doing Thy will, and leading us to search diligently the Holy Scriptures with humble prayer. I beseech thee to pardon the sad disposition we have to wander in prayer. Assist us, when kneeling before Thee, to retain an awful sense of the Divine Presence, and to fix our attention upon Thee and heavenly things, with sincere devo-

tion, deep humility, and a firm faith; and may we be enabled so to stay our minds on Thee, that we may be kept in perfect peace.¹

¹ Isaiah
XXVI. 1.

Heavenly Father! look with pity and mercy, I pray Thee, upon aged persons, and all who are near death. Oh! if it be possible, take them not hence till they have made their peace with Thee. Give them repentance towards God, and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ. May they be pardoned, sanctified, and justified; and after this life is ended, may they enter into rest, through the blood and merits of our blessed Saviour.

O God! I beseech Thee to preserve, guide, and bless me, through this day. Give me, I pray Thee, much more humility and poverty of spirit, a stronger feeling of my own unworthiness, a deeper sorrow for sin, and at the same time an increasing sense of the pity, and love, and mercy of God in Christ,² that so in

² 2 Cor.
13. 14.

proportion as I am depressed and humbled in myself, I may become more full of thankfulness and love towards my Saviour, and daily grow stronger in the Lord and in the power of his might. ¹ O may I have joy and peace in believing, and receive Christ Jesus into my heart as my wisdom and righteousness. and sanctification and redemption. ²

Eph.
i. 10.

1 Cor.
30.
al. ii.
iv. 19.
pl. ii. 6.

Merciful Father ! receive these my poor unworthy supplications ; and may I rise from my knees refreshed, strengthened, enlightened, and comforted, through Jesus Christ Thy Son our Saviour. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY and most merciful God !
 whose protecting hand has brought me
 in safety to the close of another day, help
 me, ere I lay me down to rest, to call
 upon Thee through Jesus Christ ; and
 may the lifting up of my hands be an
 acceptable evening sacrifice¹ unto Thee <sup>¹ Psalm
cxli. 2.</sup>
 for His blessed sake.

I beseech Thee, O Lord, to pardon all
 that Thy pure and holy eyes have seen
 evil in me this day, to show me wherein
 I offend Thee, and to give me true re-
 pentance. I particularly confess
 Father of Heaven ! forgive me, for Christ's
 sake, and be at peace with me ; and may
 I, through faith, wash my robes, and
 make them white in the blood of the
 Lamb,² so that if it should please Thee <sup>² Rev.
vii. 14.</sup>
 ere the morning light to call me from

^{ke}
^{35—} this world, I may be found ready, and watching for the coming of my Lord. ¹ I pray Thee to pour down Thy Holy Spirit upon me, and to make it to dwell within me, sanctifying the thoughts and feelings of my heart, and guarding me from the agency of evil spirits. I pray that my last thoughts may be with Thee ; thoughts of penitence and faith, of love to God, and charity to man, and that when I awake they may be still with Thee.

O my God ! fill me with real thankfulness for the blessings of the past day, especially for. O how little have I deserved, and how much have I received from Thee ! May Thy continued mercy and loving kindness towards me increase my love to Thee, my trust and confidence in Thee, and make me more and more desirous to please Thee.

Take me and my beloved friends every where under Thy fatherly care this night,

and remember for good all my fellow-creatures. May those who have begun to seek Thee through Jesus, hold fast the beginning of their confidence, steadfast unto the end,¹ and may those who as ^{1 Heb. iii. 14.} yet are indifferent as to spiritual things, be awakened to an anxious concern for the salvation of their souls.

O God ! hear I pray Thee, my supplications, and do for me and those for whom I would pray, exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think ; for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

ON READING THE SCRIPTURES.

O ALMIGHTY God ! from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, and who didst so love the world as to give Thine

Heb. ii. 1.
James i.
21.

only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life ; help me, I beseech Thee, that I may approach Thee in an acceptable manner through Christ, humbly and firmly believing all Thou hast revealed unto us. O enable me to give earnest heed unto these things ; and to receive with meekness the engrafted Word which is able to save our souls.¹ Let me not rise from reading the Scriptures, and forget what they have spoken unto me ; but may the Spirit teach me, and imprint deeply upon my mind the things that belong unto my peace.

O Lord ! if, as I would humbly hope, Thou hast begun a work of grace in my soul, carry on and perfect that work, I pray Thee for Christ's sake.

The peculiar trials of my disposition and situation are known only to Thee. O God ! my eyes are directed unto Thee, from whom alone cometh our help.

Leave me not, Holy Father! leave me not, compassionate Saviour! for one single moment to myself; for without Thee, I can do nothing. I am weak, unstable, and, without thine everlasting arms¹ to support me, I am but as a leaf driven to and fro by the wind.² Lord Jesus! save me! Graft me into Thyself; compass me with Thy favour as with a shield. Defend me against my spiritual enemies, against the world, against myself. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Show me more of the sinfulness of sin,³ and of the beauty of holiness,⁴ and make me more to hunger and thirst after righteousness.

¹ Deu
xxxii
27.

² Job
xiii. 2

³ Ro:
vii. 1

⁴ Psa
cx. 3

O Lord! I cannot even think a good thought of myself. Put into my heart, I pray Thee, good desires, and enable me to bring the same to good effect. O look upon me with pity, for I confess myself to be wretched and miserable,

¹ Rev.
iii. 17.

and poor, and blind, and naked.¹ Increase my faith, deepen my repentance, spiritualize my mind; give me more perfect submission to Thy will, more trust and confidence in Thee; more meekness, more charity, more purity, more singleness of heart, more self-denial, more humility. Make me what Thou wouldst have me to be,—Thy faithful, devoted servant; and may I be enabled to look up to Thee with holy and humble confidence, as reconciled unto me through Christ Jesus.²

² 2 Cor.
v. 18, to
the end.
(See
Levitic.
viii. 15.
Heb. x.
Dan. ix.
24. Rom.
x. 2, 3.
Heb. ii.
17.)

O merciful God! hear, accept, and answer these my earnest petitions. I beseech Thee, for the sake of the same Thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O THOU most Holy and Glorious Being !
 Source of light and life, and of every
 real joy ! Thou who hast commanded
 us through the Son of Thy love to call
 Thee, Abba ! Father ! ^{1 Rom. viii. 15.} permit me, a
 sinful and helpless creature to draw nigh
 to Thee in prayer ; and assist me with
 Thy Spirit to pour out the desires of my
 soul unto Thee. ^{2 Psalm lvi. 8.} Not because they are
 unknown to Thee would I express them,
 for Thine eye can pierce the inmost re-
 cesses of the heart, but because Thou ^{3 Ezek xxxvi. 37.}
 wilt be inquired of by us. ³

O Holy Father ! look upon me only
 through Thy dear Son ; for it is only
 through Him that I dare look up to
 Thee. I confess myself guilty, and un-
 worthy of Thy mercy. The remem-

brance of my past sins, the feeling of my present corruptions, is a burden too heavy for me to bear: but Thou hast given Thy Son to die for us; Thou hast promised to Thy servants, that, though they provoke Thee again and again to anger, yet, if they turn and repent, and humble themselves before Thee, and seek Thee earnestly, Thou wilt hear and pity.¹ Thou hast declared, that Thou hast no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that he should turn unto Thee and live.² O God! I cast myself upon Thy unbounded mercy in Christ Jesus for pardon: I plead Thine infinite power, to enable me to conquer the sinfulness of my nature, and to resist the temptations which surround me. O bestow upon me abundantly Thy Holy Spirit. May I know my duty; may it be made plain before me; and may I have the will and the strength to do it faithfully. Enable me to mourn unfeignedly for sin: show

¹ Deut.
iv. 29—
31. Isa.
lv. 6, 7.

² Ezek.
xxxiii.
11.

me more of its exceeding sinfulness, and of my own sinfulness in particular: but O let not the view of my unworthiness drive me to despair; but lead me, in greater simplicity of faith, to cast myself at the feet of our adorable Redeemer. May it make Him more precious¹ to me, ^{1 1 Peter ii. 7.} and may I follow Him with the lowliness of a little child. Let me never dare to sin that grace may abound:² but if ^{2 Rom. vi. 1, 2.} through weakness I should fall, O my God, overrule my fall to the furtherance of my soul's salvation. May I love Thee more, who hast opened an overflowing fountain to wash away sin.³ May I ^{3 Zech. xiii. 1.} seek to be more closely united to Christ, and cleave to Thee more earnestly in prayer. May I become more watchful, more humble, more charitable. May I fix a more steady eye upon Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith;⁴ and ^{4 Heb. xii. 2.} may every succeeding day that rolls over my head, find me growing in grace,

and in meetness for the kingdom of heaven.

Grant these things, O God, I earnestly beseech Thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son our Saviour. Amen.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O HEAVENLY Father ! how great is Thy mercy and loving kindness ! how unwearied Thy goodness ! I laid me down and slept ; I arose, for the Lord sustained me. Blessed be the name of the Lord, for this and all His mercies.

O God, teach me to pray ; and let Thy Spirit help mine infirmities.

I beseech Thee to pardon all that Thy holy eyes have seen evil in me, since last I implored Thy forgiveness. Who can tell how oft he offendeth ? O cleanse

Thou me from my secret faults ; and where conscience accuses me, let me not trifle with its suggestions, but make haste and humble myself, and seek for pardon and strength ; and may I have grace to cut off the right hand, and to pluck out the right eye which offends, remembering the admonition of my Saviour, that it would profit me nothing to gain the whole world, and lose my own soul.¹

¹ Mark
viii. 36.
ix. 43,
47.

Establish my heart in Thy faith, fear and love, and uphold me this day in the path of life. Bless me with that measure of health and prosperity which Thou seest good for me ; and enable me to cast all my care upon Thee, and to believe Thou carest for me.²

² 1 Peter
v. 7.

O Lord ! not for myself alone would I ask Thy blessing ; but I would pray according to Thy will, for all my fellow creatures.³

³ 1 Tim.
ii. 1.

Father of Lights ! Source of true

wisdom and understanding ! I beseech Thee that the Gospel may be sent to those who have it not, and their hearts prepared to receive it ; and that we who have the inestimable gift of the Holy Scriptures, may no longer neglect them, nor turn a deaf ear to them, but henceforward search them diligently with fervent prayer. O let them no longer be to us as a sealed book and a dead letter ;¹ let not our eyes be holden from knowing Thee, nor our hearts hardened against Thy fear. Let Thy Spirit take of the things of Christ and show them unto us ; and do Thou open our understandings, that we may understand the Scriptures.² Enable us firmly to believe all Thou hast revealed unto us, and to receive the kingdom of heaven as little children. May Thy threatenings warn us, Thy promises encourage us. May we read to the enlightening, guiding, strengthening, sanctifying, and comforting of our souls ; till,

¹ Isaiah
cxix. 11,
12.

² Luke
xxiv. 16,
45.
John
xvi. 14.

led by the light of Thy truth, fed with the bread from heaven,¹ washed in the precious blood of Jesus, and sanctified and made meet for heaven by the Spirit, we enter into that rest which remaineth for the people of God.²

¹ John
vi. 51.

² Heb.
iv. 9.

Hear, O mercifully hear these my supplications and prayers, Heavenly Father, I beseech Thee, for the sake of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O HOLY Lord God ! who forgivest iniquity, but wilt by no means clear the guilty :³ Thou, who canst be just, and yet the justifier of him who believes in Jesus :⁴ Thou, before whom the angels veil their faces, and in whose sight the

³ Exodus
xxix. 7.

⁴ Rom.
iii. 26.

¹ Job
xv. 15. heavens themselves are not pure ;¹ may it be with the deepest sense of my own unworthiness, with reverence, and godly fear, I draw nigh to worship Thee. The preparation of the heart is from Thee. O do Thou prepare my heart ;² may I feel I have nothing,—deserve nothing ; but help me to believe that, for Jesus Christ's sake, Thou wilt give me every good thing :³ and let Thy Holy Spirit assist me, for I know not what I should pray for as I ought.

² Prov.
xvi. 1 :
Psalm
x. 17.

³ Psalm
lxx. iv.
11.
Matt.
vii. 11.
Rom
viii. 32.

O God ! enable me to repent with a deep repentance for all the sins of which I have been guilty to this hour of my life. May I have grace to turn myself from all my transgressions ; and do Thou, O God ! give me a new heart and a new spirit,⁴ that I may henceforward serve Thee faithfully through Jesus Christ.

⁴ Ezek.
xviii.
30, 31.

Heavenly Father ! make me, I beseech thee, more earnest and diligent in prayer. How often does the enemy of souls

endeavour to keep me from this holy duty ! I know it is my highest privilege to draw nigh to the throne of grace ; yet how frequently am I loth to approach Thee ! Lord ! increase my faith,—my hungering and thirsting after righteousness. Take away the deadness and lukewarmness of my heart, heal the disorders of my soul,¹ and raise my affections unto Thee. ¹ Luke v. 31.

O my Saviour ! who didst shed thy precious blood for man, intercede for me ;² help me to resist the devil, that he may flee from me ; to draw nigh unto God in faith, that He may draw nigh unto me ;³ and send to me, I beseech Thee, the Holy Ghost, the Enlightener, the Quickener, the Purifier, the Comforter ! ² Heb. vii. 25. ³ James iv. 7, 8.

For the innumerable mercies of the past day, accept, O God ! my humble tribute of praise and thanksgiving. Take charge of me, and of all for whom I

desire to pray, through the night. Grant to us, if it be Thy blessed will, a night of peace and comfort. May we lie down in love and charity with all mankind May our bodies be preserved from suffering, and our hearts kept holy and pure ; and may we rise in the morning refreshed and strengthened for the duties belonging to our various situations.

Merciful God ! pardon my wanderings and imperfections, and accept this my evening sacrifice for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O THOU Great and Glorious God ! whose eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Thyself strong in the behalf of those whose heart is perfect

before Thee ;¹ encouraged by thy gracious promise of rejecting none who come to Thee through Christ Jesus, I would draw nigh to Thee in His sacred name, and cast myself at the foot of Thy mercy-seat. Lord ! teach me to pray.

Fill my heart with thankfulness for Thy continued care over me, for Thy preservation of me through the night season, for the renewal of my blessings and comforts with the return of the morning light. O that the life which Thou hast thus mercifully watched over might henceforward be dedicated to thy service !

Hitherto I have, indeed, been an unprofitable servant ; yea, worse than unprofitable, for I have sinned against Thee from my youth upwards in thought, and word, and deed. O pardon me, pardon me, merciful and long-suffering God ! May the blood of Jesus wash away all my sins ; and may I so feel the

love of Christ constraining me, that I may henceforward live, not to myself, but to Him who died for me and rose again.¹ Thou knowest the heart of man to be deceitful above all things and desperately wicked,² and that our enemy as a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour ;³ therefore I beseech Thee, leave me not to myself, but cleanse and purify my heart, and strengthen me with Thy grace and Holy Spirit. Make me humble and simple as a little child,⁴ growing daily in holiness and poverty of spirit. May I walk worthy of the vocation wherewith I am called, adorning the doctrine of God my Saviour.⁵ Let me not cause my fellow creatures to stumble ;⁶ but rather help to build them up on our most holy faith :⁷ and may I bring glory to the cross of Christ, by showing how the strength of the Lord is perfected in my weakness.⁸

¹ 2 Cor.
v. 14, 15.

² Jere.
xvii. 9.

³ 1 Peter
v. 8.

⁴ Matt.
xviii. 3, 4.

⁵ Ephes.
iv. 1.
Tit. ii. 10.

⁶ Rom.
xiv. 21.

⁷ Jude
20.

⁸ 2 Cor.
xii. 9,
10.

O God! I beseech Thee to assist me this day is reading profitably the Holy Scriptures. Suffer me not to oppose my finite reason to Thy infinite wisdom; nor to continue in ignorance, because I will not ask wisdom from Thee. May I hear, and read, and meditate upon Thy holy word with an humble teachableness of spirit, looking unto Jesus with earnestness of soul for the promised aid of the Spirit of Truth; and O may he guide me into all truth, may He open my understanding, and make the Book of life, the delight and comfort of my soul.

Father of mercy! I pray thee to remember for good, my beloved friends, my relations, and acquaintances, and all my fellow creatures. May those who have chosen the path of life be upheld in it, and may those who as yet are alienated from Thee, have their eyes opened to know and follow the things that belong unto their peace.

O God! look not, I beseech Thee, upon my unworthiness, but mercifully receive my prayers, and answer them in abundant blessings upon me, and all for whom I would pray, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O God! Holy! Just! and Merciful! prepare my heart to seek Thee; and, for Christ's sake, give me Thy promised Spirit, to help my infirmities. May I come with the deepest humility and sense of my utter unworthiness, not desiring to exculpate myself, and to throw a cloak over my transgressions, but in sincerity of heart confessing myself a miserable sinner.

O, in how many things am I cen-

stantly offending Thee, giving pain to my neighbour, and injuring my own peace of mind ! God be merciful to me a sinner !

. Give me true repentance and earnest desires of being made holy. O my heavenly Lord and Master ! I confess I have been often wanting in charity and forbearance, laying hands upon a fellow-servant, saying, “ Pay me that thou owest,” and forgetting the heavy debt which Thou in thy mercy art every¹ moment of my life forgiving me.¹ Yet² still have patience with me, I beseech Thee ! Condemn me not, send not forth the sentence I deserve, “ Cut it down, why cumbereth it the ground ; ”² but once again pardon me, and try me ; and because of myself I can do nothing, grant me the help of the Holy Spirit. Let it be mighty within me, pulling down strong holds, casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself

¹ Matt
xviii. 23,
to the
end.

² Luke
xiii. 6—9

against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.¹

¹ 2 Cor.
x. 4, 5.

Give me that meek and quiet spirit which is in Thy sight of great price;² and remembering that whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap, help me to sow to the Spirit, that of the Spirit I may reap life everlasting.³

² 1 Peter
iii. 4.

³ Gal. vi.
7, 8.

I thank Thee, gracious Father, for the comforts and blessings of this day, and of my past life. Surely goodness and mercy have followed me all the days of my life. Fill my heart, I beseech Thee, with thankfulness, and shed Thy love into my soul, that I may love Thee above all things.

May I lay me down in peace this night, and rest securely beneath the shadow of thy wings; and should it please Thee to add another day to my existence, may it be passed in a manner acceptable to Thee, through Christ Jesus.

Look with pity, I beseech Thee, upon a world lying in wickedness, ¹ and exposed, ^{1 John v. 19.} from the curse of sin, to sorrow and suffering. Open the eyes of the blind, that they may know themselves to be sinners, and flee for refuge to the Saviour provided for them. Strengthen the feeble, raise up the fallen, comfort the afflicted, and sanctify their sufferings to the eternal good of their souls.

I commend especially to Thee, my friends and relations, and those who desire my prayers. Be pleased to supply their various necessities of body and soul, and to preserve them unto eternal life. All this I beg, merciful Father, through the mediation and for the sake of Thy dear Son. Amen.

FRIDAY MORNING.

SUFFER me, Gracious God ! again to bow my knees unto Thee, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and for his sake teach and help me to pray, and to ask such things and in such a manner, as shall please Thee through Him.

Behold ! Thou hast again preserved me in peace and safety through the night, again raised me up in comfort, and surrounded me with my daily mercies. O let not the continuance of Thy benefits diminish their value to me ! Let me not cease to be grateful, because Thou dost not cease to bless ! O Lord ! my Creator ! my God ! my Preserver ! my Benefactor ! my Judge ! my Saviour ! make me truly thankful, and help me to praise Thee, not only with my lips, but by a heart and life devoted to Thee.

O fill me with a holy dread and terror of offending Thee, and with the most earnest desire of knowing and doing thy will. May the Holy Spirit be poured out upon me, and dwell within me, filling me with supreme love to Thee, with godly sorrow for sin, and with firm resolutions of turning from every evil way. Save me this day from the delusions of Satan,¹ and of my own corrupt heart. Lead me, O Lord! in Thy righteousness, and because of mine enemies, make straight Thy way before my face.² Help me especially against those sins to which I am most inclined; and may I never for a moment forget that "Thou God seest me."³

¹ 2 Cor.
ii. 11. xi.
14, Eph.
vi. 12.

² Psalm
v. 8.

³ Gen.
xvi. 13.
Acts
xvii. 27.

Pardon, O Lord! pardon, I beseech Thee, my sins and my transgressions, and not only pardon, but subdue my iniquities.⁴ O Lord! I have no strength: let I pray Thee, Thy strength be perfected in my weakness.⁵ Reveal to me

⁴ Micah
vii. 19.

⁵ 2 Cor.
xii. 9.

olin
v. 20,
xvii.

more of my Saviour,¹ and enable me to cleave to Him with a more perfect faith.

ol.
v. 3.

O may I henceforth abide in Him, and so walk in holiness and humility, that my life may be hid with Christ in God.²

sarah
v. 13.
in
v. 13.

These blessings which I ask for myself, I would entreat Thee also to bestow upon those for whom I desire unceasingly to pray, especially upon those who have desired my prayers. May we all have a spirit of prayer, all be under the teaching of the Spirit.³ May our separate and peculiar wants be supplied this day out of the abundance of Thy mercies in Christ Jesus; and especially in affliction and in suffering, may we find Thee to be our Refuge and our Strength.⁴

er.
v. 19.
h. i. 7.

Lord! I desire to commend all my fellow-creatures, with myself, to Thy protection and mercy this day, most earnestly beseeching Thee, that those who as yet are wanderers from Thy flock, may be

brought humbled, penitent, and believing, to the cross of the Saviour of mankind.

May it please Thee, O God, mercifully to receive this my poor and sinful sacrifice of prayer and praise ; and to send me an answer of peace, for the sake of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

FRIDAY EVENING.

O Most Glorious and ever blessed Lord God ! who inhabitest eternity, and dwellest in that light which no mortal eye can approach, how shall I, a creature sinful and polluted, draw nigh to Thee and live ? Merciful God ! not in my own name do I dare to approach Thee ; but I would come through Him whom Thou hast appointed a sacrifice for sin ; and I be-

seech Thee for the aid of the Holy Spirit to teach and help me to pray.

O lay not to my charge the innumerable offences of which I have been guilty this day; but let, I beseech Thee, the ^{John} blood of Christ cleanse me from all sin,¹ and be Thou reconciled unto me, through Thy dear Son. Truly in me has sin abounded, but O let grace much more abound in me. May I be justified through faith, and having peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, ^{John} may I rejoice in hope of the glory ^{1, 2,} of God.²

O Lord! I am not only sinful but ignorant, I am as it were of yesterday ^{Job} and know nothing,³ but Thou hast com- ^{i. 9.} manded us to ask wisdom of Thee, who givest liberally. I beseech Thee, O my God! to enlighten mine eyes lest I sleep ^{salm} the sleep of death.⁴ Thou who didst ^{i. 3.} command the light to shine out of darkness, shine, I pray Thee, into my soul,

to give me the light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Jesus Christ.¹ Send to me the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, that He may guide me into all Truth,² that He may take of the things of Christ and show them unto me, that He may bring all things to my remembrance which Thou hast spoken unto me in Thy Word.³

¹ 2 Cor.
iv. 6.

² John
xvi. 13.

³ John
xiv. 26.
xvi. 14.

O Lord ! Thou hast told us that the world cannot receive the Spirit of Truth, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him,⁴ for the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God.⁵ O God ! I pray Thee, separate me from the world, and let me be Thy child.⁶ Help me to love Thee and to keep Thy commandments ; and do Thou, according to Thy gracious promise, love me, and manifest Thyself unto me.⁷ O give me that wisdom from above, which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and

⁴ John
xiv. 17.

⁵ 1 Cor.
ii. 14.

⁶ 2 Cor.
vi. 17.

⁷ John
xiv. 21,
23.

easy to be entreated, full of mercy and of good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.¹ Help me to acknowledge Thee in all my ways, let me not be wise in mine own eyes, let me not lean to my own understanding, but trust in Thee the Lord my God, with all my heart.²

James
i. 17.

Prov.

i. 5—7.

Merciful God ! for Thy continued care over me, and the blessings of the past day, accept my humble tribute of praise and thanksgiving, and take charge of me, and of all near and dear to me, this night, I pray Thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son our Saviour. Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

O GOD ! my Creator, Preserver, and constant Benefactor ! help me with

reverence and godly fear to bow my knees before Thee, deeply feeling my own unworthiness, and trusting alone in my Saviour for acceptance with Thee. For His sake, give me Thy Spirit to help my infirmities.

Great is Thy loving-kindness to me an unworthy sinner! Great are the mercies Thou hast bestowed upon me both spiritual and temporal! Fill my heart, I pray Thee, with love and thankfulness, and with earnest desires of living to Thy glory! Take from me pride, vanity, and self-righteousness. May I be under the blessed teaching of Thy Spirit, and being convinced of my own blindness and helplessness, may I be willing and obedient to follow His holy dictates, and be led in humble penitence and lively faith to the cross of my Saviour.

O God, I beseech Thee to show me my duty this day, and to guide me in

the path of life. Strengthen in me what is good, subdue in me what is evil, purify my motives of action, help me to keep my heart with all diligence, knowing that out of it are the issues of life,¹ and let nothing corrupt me from the simplicity which is in Christ.² Be with me, I pray Thee in the study of the Holy Scriptures, that I may read them profitably and with comfort. Let me not stagger at Thy promises through unbelief, but be strong in faith giving glory to God,³ and since the Lord Jesus has left us an example that we should follow His steps,⁴ may I daily endeavour through the aid of the Spirit, to resemble Him in holiness, humility, gentleness, and heavenly-mindedness ; loving Thee my God supremely, and my neighbour with a pure heart fervently.⁵

O God ! who hast told us to make prayers and supplications for all men,⁶ I would plead Thy glorious promise that

the knowledge of the Lord shall cover
the earth as the waters cover the sea.¹
Do for us those great things for which
Thou hast commanded us to ask.² Raise
up Thy power, and come up among us,
and with great might succour us. Now
in these latter days, open the eyes of the
blind, awaken the careless from their
sleep of death,³ and pour out Thy Spirit
upon all flesh.⁴ Gather in Thy flock, I
pray Thee, from the north, and from the
south, from the east, and from the west.⁵
Take away the veil from the hearts of
thine ancient people.⁶ May they return
to thee with weeping and with supplica-
tions.⁷ May they look upon Him whom
they have pierced, and mourn.⁸ Hear, I
beseech Thee, the prayers of all Thy
servants who call upon Thee, and supply
our wants according to Thy wisdom and
Thy love, for the sake of Thy well-beloved
Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

¹ Numb.
xiv. 21.

² Isa. xi.
9. Hab.
ii. 14.

³ Isaiah
xlv. 11.
Ezek.
xxxvi.
37.

⁴ Eph. v.
14.

⁵ Joel ii.
14.

⁶ Psalm
cvii. 3.
Isaiah
xliii. 5, 6.
xlix. 8—
12. Jer.
xxiii. 8.

⁷ Luke
xiii. 29.

⁸ 2 Cor.
iii. 16.

⁹ Jerem
xxxi. 9.

¹⁰ Zech.
xii. 10.

SATURDAY EVENING.

BLESS the Lord, O my soul! and all that is within me bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul! and forget not all His benefits.¹

¹ Psalm
ciii.

Father of mercies! receive graciously the evening sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, which Thy unworthy servant desires to offer Thee for the innumerable blessings of the past week.

O Lord! Thou art merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and of great kindness.² Thou hast not dealt with me after my sins, nor rewarded me according to my iniquities, but Thou hast been kind to the unthankful and the evil.³ O that the remembrance of Thy patience and forbearance, and of Thy unwearied goodness to me, might melt my heart into deep and godly sorrow, and fill me

² Joel ii.
13.

³ Luke
vi. 35.

with firm resolutions of living henceforward a life of holiness.

O Lord! I confess my iniquity, I would be sorry for my sin.¹ How often have I acted against the checks of my conscience, and provoked Thee to anger! How perpetually have I forgotten Thee, in whom I live and move and have my being! I have done that which I ought not to do! I have left undone that which I ought to have done!

God be merciful to me a sinner!
.. Enable me to repent and turn to Thee. Pardon my sins, I beseech Thee; let them be washed away in the blood of Jesus, and for His sake give me Thy grace and Holy Spirit, to help me against the devil, the world, and the flesh. Subdue my iniquities. Take away the evil dispositions of my heart. Make me a real Christian, an humble follower of my Blessed Master. Help me daily to press forward toward the mark for the

¹ Psalm
xxxviii.
18.

Phil.
ii. 14. prize of the high calling of God in Christ
Jesus.¹ And herein may I exercise my-
self to have always a conscience void of
Acts
xiv. 16. offence toward God and toward men.²

Lord ! to-morrow is the rest of Thy
Sabbath. O may it be a day of blessing
to my soul, and to the souls of my be-
loved friends. May it be a day of blessing
to my country and to the world in
general. May all who have received
from Thee the commandment, obediently
remember the Sabbath day to keep it
Exod.
x. 8. holy.³ May the bright beams of the
truth shine into the hearts of those, who
as yet, know and love Thee not, and
may those who do know and love Thee,
be enabled to seek Thee earnestly to the
strengthening and comforting of their
souls.

Ephes.
i. 19,
9. I pray for the ministers of the Gos-
pel.⁴ May those who are in darkness,
1 Kings
viii. 21. or halting between two opinions,⁵ be
brought to see and preach the truth as

it is in Jesus,¹ and may Thy faithful ministers receive strength to remain steadfast, and come forth to-morrow in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ.²

¹ Ephes.
iv. 21.

² Rom.
xv. 29.

Merciful God ! watch over me and all belonging to me this night, I beseech Thee, and hear my prayer, for the sake of Him who ever liveth to make intercession for us. Amen.

· TO MY BIBLE.

SWEET Book by God my Maker given,
Thou pledge of love divine ;
Dear, faithful guide from earth to Heaven,
· My Bible !—Thou art mine.

In reading thee, a holy calm
Steals gently o'er my breast,
From every page flows healing balm
Lulling my griefs to rest.

For there I trace a *Father's* care,¹
Gently upholding me ;
And guiding me through every snare,
Safe to Eternity.

¹ Psalm ciii. 13. Isa. xliii. 2. 2 Cor. vi. 17, 18.

There in a *Saviour's* love I see¹

Justice and mercy meet.²

When shall my soul from earth be free,
And worship at his feet ?

And there a *Comforter* I find,³

In dark adversity ;

Leading my weak and harassed mind,
To rest, O God, in Thee.⁴

There too I read of *holiness*,⁵

Making us meet for Heaven :⁶

And everlasting *happiness*,⁷

For all through Christ forgiven,⁸

O precious gift of perfect love !⁹

Led by thy truth and light,¹⁰

My heart shall seek to rise above,¹¹

Till faith be lost in sight !¹²

¹ Matt. i. 21. John xv. 13.

² Psalm. lxxxv. 10.

³ John xiv. 16.

⁴ Psalm xxxvii. 7.

⁵ Heb. xii. 10, 14.

⁶ Col. i. 12.

⁷ Rev. vii. 13, to the end.

⁸ John vi. 37.

⁹ 1 John iv. 14—19.

¹⁰ 2 Tim. iii. 16, 17.

¹¹ Col. iii. 1, 2.

¹² 2 Cor. v. 7. John xiii. 7. 1 Cor. xiii. 12.

MORNING HYMN.

AWAKE! my drowsy soul, arise !
Slumber not life away,
Behold night's darkening shadow flies,
Awake ! arise and pray.

See how the sun's bright early gleams.
Fresh life and joy impart ;
O Jesu ! may thy fairer beams,¹
Thus gild and warm my heart.

Blest be Thou, Heavenly, Guardian Power.
Whose kind, Omniscient eye,²
Has watched me through night's silent hour.
Whilst slumbering helplessly.

I laid me down and sweetly slept,
I wake and am in peace ;
By Thee my God in safety kept,
Whose mercies never cease.

¹ Mal. iv. 2.² Psalm cxxxix. 12.

O it is sweet to know Thee near,¹
My Father! Saviour! Friend!
And dare to think that names so dear,
In Thee Almighty! blend.²

I own Thee in the bounteous streams,³
Which rich in blessings flow;
I feel Thee in the heavenly gleams,
Which through my bosom glow.⁴

I see in sorrow's darkest hour
My Father's chastening hand,
Leading me on with gentle power
To Canaan's better land.⁵

Though dust and ashes in thy sight,
Sun will I look to Thee;
And Thou, a ray of thine own light
Wilt softly shed o'er me.⁶

Give me, I pray, the Spirit's seal,⁷
A heart more raised above,⁸
A firmer trust, a warmer zeal,⁹
A faith that works by love.¹⁰

¹ Acts xvii. 27, 28.

² Rom. viii. 15. John xv. 13, 14.

³ 1 Tim. vi. 17.

⁴ Psalm xciv. 19.

⁵ Isa. xlviii. 17. l. 10.

⁶ Psalm xxxiv. 5.

⁷ Eph. i. 13. Rev. ix. 4.

⁸ Col. iii. 2.

⁹ Isa. xxvi. 3. 2 Cor. vii. 11.

¹⁰ Gal. v. 6.

Bind me to Thee, sole source of rest,¹
Closer and closer still ;
Till every feeling of my breast,
Be moulded to thy will. ²

¹ Matt. xi. 28. John xv. 7.

² Jer. xviii. 6. Col. iii. 3. 2 Cor. x. 5.

THE MISSIONARY.

YES, thou hast left thy pleasant home,
And many a sweet and tender joy,
But though thou dost at distance roam,
God still is with thee, Missionary.¹

It may be yet a parting tear
Unbidden falls adown thy cheek,
But let this thought thy sadness cheer,
God smiles upon thee, Missionary.

In sickness none thou lov'st may stand
Around thy lonely couch of pain,
But thy Almighty Father's hand
Will smooth thy pillow, Missionary.²

Thou think'st it would be sweet to blend
Thy prayers with one now far away,
Well, God is present with thy friend,
And with thee too, poor Missionary.³

¹ Matt. xxviii. 19, 20.

² Psalm. xli. 3.

³ 2 Chron. xvi. 9. Psalm xxxiii. 13. Prov. xv. 3.

Perhaps, beneath an eastern sun,
Fainting and weak thou toil'st thy way :
'Tis very painful, weary one,
But God will help thee, Missionary.¹

Soon will thy grief and toil be o'er,
And many a spirit taught by thee,
Shall welcome thee to Canaan's shore,
O happy, happy Missionary,²

¹ Isa. xxxii. 2. xli. 10, 17. ² Dan. xii. 3. James v. 19, 20.

2 CORINTHIANS I. 3, 4.

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of Mercies and the God of all Comfort, who
comforteth us in all our tribulation.

THINKEST thou, poor wanderer, thou art
left alone,
To tread life's rugged path in wretched-
ness?
O cheer thee, cheer thee, mourner!—there
is One,
Will lead thee on to rest and blessedness.

Yea, there is One in Heaven whose eye of
love,
Beams sweetly on thy rough and toilsome
way,
One who, where'er thy lonely footsteps
move,
Still hovers near thee and will be thy
stay.¹

¹ Heb. xiii, 5.

It may be the unerring shaft of death
Has pierced the heart entwined within
thine own ;
And with that loved one's last expiring
breath,
Thy cherished hopes of earthly bliss are
flown.

It may be, all that rendered life most dear
To thee are scattered wide.—It may be,
ne'er
Again affection's precious smile shall cheer
Thy pilgrimage, nor soothe thy bosom's
care.

Well, weep, poor sufferer !—for “ Jesus
wept.”

But O remember thou that sympathy,
Not want of power to raise the friend that
slept,
And heal the grief, drew tears from that
mild eye.

And is He not the same ?—tender and kind ?¹
And is He not thy friend ? Since thou
hast sought²

¹ Heb. xiii. 8.

² John xv. 14, 15.

His love : and all who seek shall find.

My brother ! there is comfort in the
thought.

Now thou hast grief, but they who meekly
“ sow

In tears, shall reap in joy.”¹ When He
appears,

The streams that now thy pallid cheeks
o’erflow

Shall cease, for “ God will wipe away
all tears.”²

Then shall those holy friends love-bound
on earth

Together rise—upwards enraptured soar,
Hail with extatic joy their heavenly birth,
And meet in Christ to separate no more !³

¹ Psalm cxxvi. 5, 6.

² John xvi. 22. Rev. xxi. 3, 4.

³ 1 Thess. iv. 13. to the end.



MALACHI iv. 2.

Unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of Righteousness
arise with healing in his wings.

O SUN of Righteousness! arise and shine,
Dispel the clouds that gather round my
heart ;
No other light, O Saviour, none but Thine,
Can comfort to my trembling soul impart.

When they who loved Thee wept around
thy tomb,
The bright effulgence of Thy glorious
rays,
Burst through the precincts of death's
awful gloom,
And changed their grief into triumphant
praise.¹

¹ Matt. xxviii. 8.

But I have watched, and wept, and waited
 long,
And still in darkness wander far from
 Thee,
Once I could sing,—but silent is my song¹
 When, when, my Saviour, wilt Thou
 comfort me ?²

Let but one beam illuminate my way,³
 One moment let me catch a glimpse of
 Thee,
Then with fresh ardour will I watch and
 pray,
Till called by Thee into Eternity.⁴

¹ Psalm lxxvii. 6, 7.

² Psalm xl. 1. cxix. 82.

³ Heb. x. 32.

⁴ Mark xiii. 35, to the end.

ON THE DEATH
OF A VERY PIOUS CHILD.

Go home ! sweet lamb of Zion's fold !—
The blasts of earth are all too cold
For thy dear gentle spirit !—Go !—
Thy own loved Shepherd wills it so.¹

Go where celestial zephyrs blow ;
Go where life's streams unruffled flow,²
Go where all grief, all sufferings cease,
Where all is bliss and purity and peace.

Sweet one ! thy Friend is come for thee.³
Away into Eternity !
He calls thy spirit into rest,
Haste thee, and fly into His breast !

¹ Isa. xl. 11.

² Rev. vii. 17.

³ Matt. xxiv. 42, 44. Mark x. 14—16.

HYMN.

Casting all your care upon him, for He careth for you.

1 PETER v. 7.

YES, I will cast my care on Thee
 My Saviour and my God.
 O why should I tread fearfully
 The path Thy feet have trod !¹

For Thou hast known deep troubled fears,
 The tempter's fiery darts ;
 And Thou hast shed such anguish'd tears,²
 As flow from broken hearts.

Lord ! if I yet must suffer more,
 Be every murmur still,
 And let my trembling soul adore
 With child-like faith Thy will.³

¹ Heb. ii. 10.

² Matt. xxvi. 38. Mark xv. 34. Luke xxii. 44.

³ Heb. v. 7.

⁴ John xiii. 7.

Give me, O God, humility,
To own thy chastening just ;¹
Help me to stay myself on Thee,²
And in thy mercy trust.

Make me more holy, and more meet,
To join the saints above ;³
Then will the bitter cup be sweet,
Mix'd by a God of Love.⁴

¹ Jer. ii. 35

² Isa. l. 10

³ Gal. i. 12

⁴ Heb. xii. 10 — Rev. iii. 19

HYMN.

Come unto me.—MATT. xi. 28.

JESUS, Lord! I come to Thee,
Be Thou all in all to me,¹
Earnestly thy help I seek,²
Strengthen me, for I am weak.³

Thou art Wisdom,—make me wise;⁴
Thou art Light,—unseal mine eyes;⁵
I am sinful, I confess,
Clothe me with thy righteousness.⁶

Should my soul in weakness stray
From the strait and narrow way,
Let thy kindly chastening rod,⁷
Bring me back to Thee my God.⁸

¹ 1 Cor. i. 30, 31. Col. iii. 11.

² Psalm cxix. 10.

³ Psalm vi. 2.

⁴ 1 Cor. i. 30.

⁵ John i. 9. xii. 46. 1 John i. 5.

⁶ Isa. lxi. 10. Rev. iii. 18.

⁷ Psalm lxxxix. 31, 32

⁸ Psalm xxiii. 3.

In temptation's fearful hour,¹
Save me, Lord, from Satan's power,
Keep thy promise in my sight,
Turn my darkness into light.²

Wretched, helpless, poor, and blind,³
Safety near my God I find,
Joy and peace thy presence brings,⁵
Hide me, Lord, beneath thy wings.⁶

¹ Rev. iii. 10.

² Isa. xlii. 16. Acts xxvi. 18.

³ Rev. iii. 17.

⁴ Psalm xvi. 8. xxiii. 4. John xv. 5.

⁵ Psalm xvi. 11.

⁶ Psalm lvii. 1.

ON THE PALESTINE MISSION.

The Lord shall comfort Zion: joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody.—

ISAIAH li. 3.

JERUSALEM ! afflicted child of heaven !
O comfort thee !—thy sins shall be forgiven.¹
God for a moment has forsaken thee,
But with great mercies will he gather thee.²

Lift up thy prostrate head, and look around,³
For sure methinks a sweet and tender sound,
Soft as the summer shower at evening falls,
Is echoing through thy long deserted walls.⁴

A sound of pity and of Heavenly love !
A voice of mercy from the courts above !⁵
O rouse thee, Judah, from thy lethargy ;⁶
Long hast thou slumbered in thy misery.⁷

¹ Isa. xl.

² Isa. liv. 7, 8.

³ Isa. lii. 1—3.

⁴ Isa. li. 3.

⁵ Isa. xlix. 13—16.

⁶ Isa. li. 17, 22.

⁷ Ephes. v. 14.

How beautiful the feet of those who bring
 Salvation's offer from th' Eternal King,
 Yea, beautiful the olive branch they bear,
 And high amidst thy weeping sons uprear. ¹

Spirit of Heaven! may thy quickening
 breath,
 Awaken Israel from her sleep of death : ²
 O let her not again from mercy turn,
 Nor this sweet token from Messiah spurn !

And ye who, glowing with a heavenly zeal,
 Have left your earthly joys for Israel's weal,
 May ye be wise as serpents. As the dove
 May ye be harmless, gentle, full of love. ³

O may your life be hid with Christ in God, ⁴
 May ye be strong to tread the path He trod, ⁵
 Armed with the shield of faith, the Spirit's
 sword, ⁶
 Blest be your labours, glorious your reward. ⁷

¹ Isa. lii. 7. Jer. xxxiii. 6—16. Ezek. xxxvii. xxxix. 22.
 to the end.

² Ezek. xxxvii. 9.

³ Matt. x. 16.

⁴ Col. iii. 3.

⁵ 1 Pet. ii. 21. 1 John ii. 6.

⁶ Ephes. vi. 16, 17.

⁷ Dan. xii. 3.

THE COMPARISON.

SWEET is the Mother's silent kiss,
Imprinted on her baby's check,
And sweet her gentle thrill of bliss,
When, Mother! first his lips can speak.

But sweeter far her deep drawn joy,
When many a year has taken flight ;
If bending o'er her youthful boy,
She hails in him a child of light.¹

Sweet are the gentle tones of love,
Breathing of future bliss in heaven,
And hopes of meeting high above,
When death the "silver cord" has riven.²

But sweeter yet the "still small voice"³
Which softly whispers "peace" from
heaven,⁴

¹ Ephes. v. 8.

² Eccles. xii. 6.

³ 1 Kings xix. 12.

⁴ John xiv. 27. Phil. iv. 7.

Which bids the trembling soul “rejoice,”¹
And tells of sin through Christ forgiven.²

Sweet, on its Mother’s tender breast,
The smiling infant finds repose,
And sweet the silent hour of rest,
When wearied eyelids gently close.

But sweeter far that hour of peace,
Of all the hours of time the best,
When all their earthly troubles cease,
And Christians enter into “rest.”³

Sweet is the breath of evening gales,
When freshened by a summer shower,
And sweet the fragrance which exhales
From beds of rose or jasmine flower.

But still more sweet the incense breathed,
When floods of tears bedew the ground,
When sighs of penitence are heaved,
And “he who” once “was lost is found.”⁴

¹ Phil. iv. 4.

² 1 John i. 7.

³ Heb. iv. 1, 9.

⁴ Luke xv. 10, 32.

Sweet are the visions of the past,
Floating on friendship's memory,
And sweet the retrospect we cast,
On hours of valued sympathy.

But O there is a dearer thought
Graven on a Christian's memory ;
With yet more hallowed sweetness fraught,
A Saviour's tear of sympathy. ¹

¹ "Jesus wept." John xi. 35.

PENITENTIAL HYMN.

They poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them.—Isa. xxvi. 16.

GENTLY, O gently lay thy chastening rod¹
Upon thy children's guilty heads, O God!
Trembling with grief,—afflicted, weary—
faint,
We cry to thee: Hear, hear our soul's
complaint!

Low, passive, at thy sacred feet we lie,
Jesus! behold, and soothe our misery!
Speak but one word, one pitying look
bestow,
And bid our tears in lessened anguish flow.²

¹ Psalm lxxxix. 30—33.

² Luke xxii. 61, 62.

Thou for our sakes hast trod dark sorrow's
path ;¹

Thou for our sakes hast drained the cup of
wrath ;²

Thou knowest then, Compassionate ! our
woes,³

Oh ! in thy bosom let us find repose !⁴

¹ Isaiah liii. 3—6.

² Luke xxii. 42—44.

³ Heb. ii. 18. iv. 15.

⁴ Matt. xi. 28. John xvi. 33.

GOD IS LOVE.—1 JOHN IV. 8.

CHILD of misery ! why weepest thou ?
Why droops thy sad and mournful brow ?
Why is thy look so like despair ?
What deep, wild sorrow lingers there ?

Knowest thou not that stream of love
For ever flowing from above ?
There is no grief thou canst endure,
For which the Gospel has no cure.

Thou mourn'st perchance for some one gone.
A friend,—a wife,—a little one,—
Poor pilgrim ! my heart weeps for thee,
I too have known thy misery.

Yet mourn not thus, afflicted one ;
Pilgrim, thou art not left alone,
Thou hast a better friend above,
Thy friend is God, and “ God is Love.”

Was it remorse that laid thee low ?
Is it for sin thou mournest so ?
Truly thine is a heavy grief,
Yet, pilgrim, there is still relief.

Thy Friend in Heaven can pardon give,
He gave his life that thou might'st live,
Rise, seek for comfort from above,
Thy friend is God and " God is Love."

Art thou compelled to leave thy home ?
A wanderer on the earth to roam ?
Remember him who meekly said,
" He had not where to lay his head."

O think of Him, that Man of grief !
And let thy sorrows find relief,
He bore thy sins upon the tree ;
He reigns above to comfort thee !¹

Has cold unkindness wounded thee ?
Thy best loved friend forsaken thee ?
O turn thy thoughts from earth to Heaven,
There, no such cruel wounds are given.

¹ Acts v. 30, 31.

In all the varying scenes of woe,
The lot of fallen man below,
Still lift thy tearful eye above,
And hope in God, for “God is Love.”

Sweet is the thought in wretchedness,
This earth is not our resting place ;¹
And sweet the promise of the Lord,
To all who love his name and word.²

Then, weeping pilgrim, comfort thee,
And let this soothe thy misery,
An eye beholds thee from above,
The eye of God, and “God is Love.”

¹ Micah ii. 10. Heb. xi. 14—16. xiii. 14

² Heb. xiii. 5.

ON THE DEATH
OF A VERY POOR AND AGED COTTAGER.

POOR, withered, aged thing!—And thou art
dead!

I had not thought to shed this tear for
thee,—

And yet thy soul was precious in my sight,
And I have prayed for thee when none was
near,

No eye but His who knew alone thy heart.
O were they heard, those prayers!—Art
thou in Heaven?

And others prayed for thee.—O memory!
Thou bringest before me, with the aged form
Of that departed soul, full many a thought
Of days and hours gone by, but treasured
deep

Within my heart. Sweet moments spent in
prayer

Or heavenly converse with friends far away,
Now listening to the words of holy writ,
Now bending low beside a dying bed.

Well I remember me the autumnal eve
When first we spied that wan and shadowy
 form
Beneath a sheltering rock, where she had
 crept
With much of toil and pain, to catch the
 ray
That yet beam'd brightly from the glowing
 sun
And warmed her shivering limbs.—Poor
 sufferer !
Alas ! thou little knewest then how meet
An emblem this of Christian joy and peace.¹
Thy soul was dark—O how we pitied thee,
Thus tottering on the borders of the grave,
And long'd to see thee basking in the
 beams
Of that far brighter Sun of Righteousness !
Few were thy days and evil from this hour
To that which brought thee to the silent
 tomb,
But thou didst listen to the holy truths
We sought to instil into thy aged soul,

¹ Psalm lxxxiv. 11. Isa. xxxii. 2. Mal. iv. 2.

And many a prayer thy trembling lips put
up
To Him who died for all, that all might live.
Thus far we know,—the rest concealed from
earth,
Dwells in the bosom of th' Omnipotent.

THE END.

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THAMES DITTON.

